



The last  
**VV I L L**  
 AND  
**T E S T A M E N T**  
 O F  
 Sir Iohn Presbyter.

Who dyed of a new *Disease*  
 called *The particular Charge of*  
*the ARMY.*

With divers Admonitions and  
 Legacies left to his deare Children of the  
*Presbyterian Commons* that have deserted the  
 House : Likewise to Legions of *perjur'd Priests.*  
 residing in *London, Westminster,*  
 or else where.

With his Life, Death, Buriall, and Epitaph.

*The second Edition ; Corrected and amended , to prevent  
 false Copies.*

Printed in the yeare of Jubilee, 1647.

EX V I

TESTAMENT

CHRONOLOGICAL

AND

SYNOPSIS

OF THE

SCRIPTURES

AND

THE

PROPHETIC

BOOKS



## The last Will, &c.

Know all men by these presents, that I



*Ohn* *Presbyter* Knight, by Countrey a *Scotch-man*, of the Tribe of *Rabshakah*, of the Linage of *Iudas*; ( being of perfect memory, onely a litle troubled with melancholy, and a disease called, *The particular Charge of the Army* ) doe ordaine this my last Will and Testament to stand in full force and vertue.

*Imprimis*, I give and bequeath my soule into, the hands of him that gave it; and whereas I have alwayes (in my life time) been used, and taught all others to plunder and rob both God and *Cesar* of their dues; yet at my death I detest all such horrid Actions, Equivocations, and mentall Reservations, and will not rob the Devill of his: Therefore in plaine English, *Devill take thy due*.

For my body, I bequeath to the earth; provided first, That it bee first decently wrapped in six sheets of the *Director*, and then reverently coffined up in the sacred *Ordinance for Tithes*, and so with all solemnity carried from the *Temple to Westminster* by the *C L asses*, Doctor *Burges*, Doctor *Gonge*, Master *Edwards*, and *Byssild* being close Mourners, and going before the Corpses, and the wicked Elders following after, weeping, howling, and knashing of their teeth, as if they were already in the fire, which such stinking Trees were made for, upon one of which

(2)

Judas my great Granfire hanged himselfe. You may read more of them in the History of *Susanna*, with a slow motion, and in the midst of the streets, that my body may be seene by all, and let your sorrow so much abound, that you may take up that Lamentation of old, *Wisdoms crying out in the streets, but none regardeth her* — my will is, That my learned Countriman, Doctour *Cybballs* teach at my Funerall in a deplorable tone of language (according to his speciall gift) my will being that he preach upon that Text in the 89<sup>th</sup> Psal. ver. 44. *The dayes of my youth hast thou shortened, and covered me with dishonour.*

Next I desire that Mr. *Calamy* and Mr. *Cass* may be sent up to desire a conference with both Houses, to procure an Ordinance, that there may be a day of Humiliation appointed and set apart to deplore my sad losse, and that a Message be prepared, and sent with all speed into *Scotland*, to give them timely notice thereof, that they may humble themselves with you, and that whereas wee have continued a Monthly Fast for the distressed Protestants in Ireland, and wee our selves having revoked the *Protestant Religion*, and instituted the *Presbyterian*, ( and now finding our owne distresses to be above or equall with theirs ) we conclude that our Prayers have not beene available for them, and may now change the day, and fast and pray as long or longer for our selves. And likewise, that they may be pleased to put it to the Vote, whether my corps may not be interred neare his Excellency their late Lord Generall, and Mr. *John Pym*, and so hereafter all Parliament men disceasing, that wee our selves may as well now, as hereafter take up all the resting places of the Saints, and so leave no roome for either the King or his evil Counsell or Popish Bishops, they having formerly engrossed that place only for themselves, that an Ordinance may be speedily drawne up to this effect.

Thirdly, I will and bequeath vnto Doctour *Burges* to have the disposing of all the Benefices whatsoever; provided.

ded that the said Dr. *Burges* hold and freely enjoy as many of the said Benefices as he himselfe pleaseth, and the rest to be by him disposed of to such persons as he shall thinke qualified and indued with gifts befitting to great a Cause as the present *Reformation* shall require: to which end, for the better encouragement of him the said Dr. therein, I do freely give and bequeath unto the said Dr. *Burges* all the scaffolds, and loose stones in or about, or belonging to the Church of *Pauls*, to pull downe, take, carry away, and dispose of as he shall thinke fitting.

Fourthly, I give and bequeath unto my Reverend Son Dr. *Gouge* the full sum of 500 l. for these religious uses following, viz. 20 pounds to find his Parish Bell-ropes, and in case his said Parish shall not have any use thereof, that he or any of the rest of the venerable *Assembly* shall have full power and authority to use them at their owne discretions: That one hundred and 50 pounds shall be by the said \* Dr. *Gouge* disbursed in tea-coale whilst they are cheap, and by him selled up (as lately he did, most of his Parish can justifie the same) and by him againe sold out to the poore of his Parish, or any other poore Christians at 10. d. the Bushell cleare gaines. And I ordaine that he imploy the remaining sum in like manner, or if he thinkes it fitting to put it to use at 10. in the hundred, and not under, and the gaines thereof arising to be distributed equally to Mr. *Wals*, *Priv*, and Dr. *Bastwick*, that they may be the better encouraged to *Query* against the *Army*, to raile against *Independents*, to rout out *Monarchy*, and to prove *Presbytery jure Divino*, provided that the *principall* remaine intire to Dr. *Gouge* himselfe, without any other fraud or deceit,

Fifthly, I give and bequeath to my deare Child Mr. *Edwards*, 500. Acres of Bishops Lands, with all the timber growing thereon, to be by him converted to Gibbets to hang up the *Independents*; and in case the said *Independents* shall resist the holy Synod, as it is probable they will; That then it shall be lawfull for any of the *Assembly* being al-

\* Like to  
lice quoth  
the Devill  
to the Co-  
lier.



ready furnished with hempe ( if not enough in my former Legacy, the Common people of England questionlesse will supply their needs ) to hang themselves, and to fulfill the old Proverbe, give them halter enough and theile hang themselves.

Sixthly, I give and bequeath all my plundered Books, and Libraries lately tane from the Bishops to Mr *Calamy*, Mr *Sedgwick*, and Mr. *Cafe*. it being likely the *Cafe* may suddenly be altered, and my sonne *Calamy* feeble *Calamity*, for I feare destruction is nigh, and my son *Sedgwick* will shortly bleat ( like one of *Ieroboams* Calves ) to his Country-men in *Essex*, in one only single poore Benefice.

Seventhly, I give and bequeath all my *Charity* to the *Aldermen* of the City, and by them to be disposed of to the *Parliament*, as they shall have need thereof.

Eighthly, All my widdome and learning to the *Common Councell*, that they may preserve the City as I and my Children have preserved the *Church*, and brought it to the great light and glory that now you see it is.

Ninthly I give and bequeath to all broaken *Aldermen*, defunct *Committees*, and accused *Members* of the House of Commons, my new *Creed*; and by them to be disposed of to their Creditors, and all others as they shall see cause, that they may renew their faith, and againe become credible men, by which meanes the publique faith may againe revive, and the City looke up: and whereas my Predecessor knowne by the name of *Doctors Commons* of famous memory did decaise about fixe yeares since, having first made a will which was made publique in print, and for as much as the said *Doctors Commons* is againe revived to my great and unspeakeable terrour, I doe hereby bequeath unto my said Predecessor all jurisdiction, priviledges, profits, and emoluments whatsoever so unjustly usurped and detained by me, and the rest of my precious Brats.

Tenthly, All my zeale for the Cause I give and bequeath to the dissenting Souldiers that have deserted the Army, that they

they may stand up mightily in the gap, and stop the plaguy devouring Army of Sir Thomas Fairfax.

Eleventhly, I give and bequeath all my new invented *Oathes*, and *Covenants*, all my *Schismaticall Sermons*, all my *Perjuries*, *Forgeries*, *Plots*, *Treacheries*, *Rebellions*, *Equivocations*, and *mentall reservations*, to my deare children the *Scots*, provided that they shall make use of them in their owne Countrey, and not else where.

Twelfthly. I give and bequeath unto Dr. \* *Cyballs* to. l. of \* A notorious lawfull money of England, in consideration of my Funerall turne-coot.  
Sermon, besides two *Canonicall Coats*, which he may turne, as he sees fitting; and I desire him to make his prayer shorter then the ordinary use hath been, for I my selfe must confesse the blasphemies, treasons, heresies, incongruities, tautologies, absurdities of my children in their measure of Prayer, from time to time (observed by the people) hath bene a great cause of my untimely disease: And also I desire that his Sermon may be printed, and published, and that Wal-ey'd Bartlet at *Austins-gate*, and *Belkamy* at the Old Exchange have the Printing thereof; and that an Ordinance may be desired, that none dare to reprint the same.

Lastly, I do intrust all that out of a conscientious duty to me (shall suddenly after my discease) leave and abandon the House of Commons, (Provided they exceed not the number of threescore) to be my Executors, that they see this my last Wil and Testament performed, without any fraud according to the true sense and meaning thereof, and the severall legacies to be paid to the persons aforesaid within five moneths after my death. And this my Will to remaine in full force, revoking all former Wills, Bonds, Bills, Gifts, whatsoever.

Witnesse my hand and Seale,

\* *Adoniram Byfield*, Scribe.

Sealed and delivered,

*July, 1647.*

*John Presbyter.*

*Simon Synod.*

*Cornelius Burgess.*

*Postscript.*

## Postscript.

**R** Ejoyce O heavens, ring aloud O earth, clap thy hands  
for joy O England goss nuttula soles, thou shalt now have  
a time of quiettelle, of peace, of content, for Presbyter Iohn  
is dead, and will never vex thee more, nor imprison thy free  
Denizens, nor eate up thy fat things, nor devour thy good  
things, nor eate the bread out of thy childrens mouthe:  
Therefore farewell persecution for conscience; farewell  
Ordinance for Tyebes; farewell Ecclesiasticall Supremacy;  
farewell Pontifical Revenue; farewell Dissembly of Di-  
vines, dissembled at Westminster, you shall consule together  
no more; farewell Sir Simon Synod, and his sonne Presbyter  
Jack.

*Gens antiqua fuit, multos dominata per Annos,*

And therefore O England,  
*Interpone tunc interdum gaudia curae*

## His EPITAPH.

**H** ERE lies Jack Presbyter, void of all piety,  
Who ruin'd the Countrey, and fooled the City:  
He turned preaching to prating, and selling of lyes,  
Caust & farres and dissentions in all Families.  
He invented new Oathes, Rebellion to raise,  
Deceiving the Commons, whilst on them he preyes.  
He made a New Creed, despised the Old,  
King, State, and Religion by him bought and sold.  
He faine yeares consulted, and yet could not tell  
The Parliament the way Christ went into Hell,  
Resolved thereon, he never could be,  
Therefore in great haste, he's gone thither to see.

FINIS.



